

Message Text

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12

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20

USIA-15 ACDA-19 IO-14 NEA-10 TRSE-00 SAJ-01 DRC-01

/148 W

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R 141140Z NOV 73

FM USMISSION BERLIN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2636

AMEMBASSY BONN

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USMISSION NATO

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 1 OF 2 BERLIN 1955

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PGOV, PFOR, WB, GE, UR

SUBJECT: POLAD CALL ON BELETSKIY NOVEMBER 12

REF: A) BONN 15458; B) BERLIN 1696; C) BERLIN 1896

1. SUMMARY: IN NOVEMBER 12 MEETING WITH BELETSKIY, POLAD DELIVERED ALLIED RESPONSES TO SOVIET STATEMENTS ON EXFILTRATION AND INTERIOR COMMITTEE. BELETSKIY CHALLENGED ANEW ESTABLISHMENT OF FRG OFFICES IN WEST BERLIN, CLAIMED IT WAS ALLIED RESPONSIBILITY TO CRACK DOWN ON EXFILTRATION ORGANIZATIONS IN WEST BERLIN, AND COMPLAINED ABOUT SCHUETZ ALLEGATION THAT GDR INCREASE IN CURRENCY-EXCHANGE REQUIREMENTS WAS VIOLATION OF AGREEMENTS. POLAD TOOK OPPORTUNITY TO INFORM SOVIETS OF IMPENDING PUBLICATION OF BIRD BOOK ON HESS, AND TO REINFORCE EARLIER PRESENTATIONS TO SOVIET CONSULATE GENERAL REGARDING LATTER'S POLITICAL ACTIVITIES.
END SUMMARY.

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2. POLAD CALLED ON SOVIET EMBASSY COUNSELOR BELETSKIY NOVEMBER 12 TO DELIVER AGREED ALLIED ORAL RESPONSES (REF A) TO TWIN SOVIET STATEMENTS ON EXFILTRATION AND RECENT WEST BERLIN MEETING OF BUNDESTAG INTERIOR COMMITTEE (REF B). WITH REGARD TO LATTER, BELETSKI INITIALLY OFFERED NO COMMENT OTHER THAN TO SAY THAT ALLIES WERE WELL AWARE OF SOVIET POSITION ON SUBJECT. POLAD REMARKED THAT EAST GERMAN LEADERS HAD RECENTLY BEEN PROPOUNDING EXCESSIVELY NARROW DEFINITION OF FRG-WEST BERLIN TIES. HONECKER, FOR EXAMPLE, SEEMED TO THINK PURELY IN TERMS OF PHYSICAL LINKS BETWEEN FRG AND WEST BERLIN, BY WHICH DEFINITION DEVELOPMENT OF TIES IMPLIED NO MORE THAN IMPROVEMENT IN TRANSIT FACILITIES. CONCEPT, POLAD STRESSED, WAS MUCH BROADER THAN THIS. POLAD ALSO TOOK OPPORTUNITY TO BRING TO BELETSKIY'S ATTENTION RECENT ERROR OF WINZER IN CLAIMING THAT RUSSIAN TEXT WAS ONLY AUTHENTIC VERSION OF QA, AND THAT WORD "VERBINDUNGEN," WHICH WAS EXACT TRANSLATION FROM RUSSIAN, WAS CORRECT TERM TO DESCRIBE PERMITTED LINKS BETWEEN FRG AND WEST BERLIN. POLAD NOTED THAT, IMMEDIATELY PRIOR TO INITIALING OF QA, AMBASSADOR ABRASIMOV HAD SPECIFICALLY CONFIRMED ALLIED STATEMENT THAT ENGLISH, RUSSIAN, AND FRENCH VERSIONS OF TEXT WERE EQUALLY AUTHENTIC.

3. BELETSKIY READILY ACCEDED TO LATTER POINT, AND ALSO ACCEPTED ARGUMENT THAT "TIES" IMPLIED SOMETHING BROADER THAN MERE PHYSICAL LINKS. HE ASSERTED, HOWEVER, THAT SECTION OF QA DEALING WITH TIES AND WITH NON-EXERCISE OF FRG DIRECT GOVERNMENTAL AUTHORITY HAD TO BE VIEWED AS COMPROMISE BETWEEN OPPOSING POSITIONS AND INTERPRETED IN THAT LIGHT. ESTABLISHMENT OF NEW FRG OFFICES IN WEST BERLIN, HE CONTINUED, WAS NOT LEGITIMATE STRENGTHENING OF TIES BETWEEN FRG AND WEST BERLIN BUT RATHER A "POLITICAL DEMONSTRATION," AS FRG INTERIOR MINISTER GENSCHER HAD HIMSELF ADMITTED IN CASE OF FEDERAL ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION OFFICE. POLAD INTERJECTED THAT BELETSKIY APPEARED TO BE CONFUSING POLITICAL AND JURIDICAL MATTERS. IF SOVIETS OBJECTED TO ESTABLISHMENT OF FEDERAL OFFICES
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IN WEST BERLIN ON GROUNDS THIS WAS "POLITICAL DEMONSTRATION," THEN THEIRS WAS POLITICAL COMPLAINT RATHER THAN JURIDICAL ONE BASED ON ALLEGED SPECIFIC VIOLATION OF QA. BELETSKIY REPLIED WITH NOW-FAMILIAR REFRAIN THAT QA PROVIDED FOR REDUCTION OF FEDERAL PRESENCE IN WEST BERLIN. POLAD DENIED EXISTENCE OF ANY SUCH PROVISION IN AGREEMENT, AND POINTED OUT THAT BELETSKIY WAS ONCE AGAIN CONFUSING POLITICAL WITH JURIDICAL OBJECTIONS.

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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 2 OF 2 BERLIN 1955

E.O. 11652:GDS

TAGS: PGOV, PFOR, WB, GE, UR

SUBJECT: POLAD CALL ON BELETSKIY NOVEMBER 12

4. BELETSKIY SHIFTED HIS TACK AT THIS POINT AND REMARKED THAT THERE WERE INSTANCES WHERE WESTERN SIDE CLAIMED THAT QA WAS BEING VIOLATED WHEN IT WAS NOT. GOVERNING MAYOR SCHUETZ HAD REFERRED TO RECENT GDR INCREASE IN MINIMAL CURRENCY-EXCHANGE REQUIREMENT AS VIOLATION OF AGREEMENTS, WHEN IN FACT THERE WAS NO MENTION OF THIS IN QA, TTA, OR VISITS ARRANGEMENT. POLAD AGREED THAT CURRENCY EXCHANGE WAS NOT EXPLICITLY MENTIONED, BUT NOTED THAT DOUBLING OF REQUIREMENT HAD TO BE AGAINST SPIRIT OF AGREEMENTS SINCE IT COULD OBVIOUSLY NOT CONTRIBUTE TO FACILITATION OF VISITS TO EAST BERLIN AND GDR. BELETSKIY RESPONDED THAT WEST WAS ALSO VIOLATING SPIRIT OF AGREEMENTS IN ALLOWING EXFILTRATION TO CONTINUE.

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5. WITH REGARD TO ALLIED RESPONSE ON EXFILTRATION STATEMENT, BELETSKIY SAID HE AGREED WITH VIEW THAT PROBLEM SHOULD BE ADDRESSED BY TWO GERMAN SIDES. HOWEVER, HE CONTINUED, KOHL HAD ALREADY ON SEVERAL OCCASIONS REMINDED BAHR OF FRG'S OBLIGATION TO PUT AN END TO ACTIVITIES OF EXFILTRATION ORGANIZATIONS, AND NOTHING HAD COME OF THIS. POLAD REMARKED THAT BELETSKIY KNEW VERY WELL THAT THERE WAS FUNDAMENTAL PROBLEM INVOLVED HERE: THERE WAS IN WESTERN SOCIETIES AN ACCEPTED RIGHT TO FREE MOVEMENT OF PERSONS THAT COULD NOT BE VIOLATED. BELETSKIY THEN CLAIMED THAT, SINCE ALLIES CONSTITUTED SUPREME AUTHORITY IN WEST BERLIN, IT WAS THEIR RESPONSIBILITY TO TAKE ACTION AGAINST EXFILTRATION ORGANIZATIONS LOCATED THERE. POLAD TURNED ASIDE THIS LINE OF ARGUMENT BY STATING THAT IT HAD NOT YET BEEN MADE CLEAR EXTENT TO WHICH EXFILTRATION CONSTITUTED MISUSE IN SENSE OF ARTICLE 16 OF TRANSIT AGREEMENT AND WHAT RESPONSIBILITIES OF FRG AND GDR WERE UNDER ARTICLE 17 OF THAT AGREEMENT. IT WAS THEREFORE, IN FIRST PLACE, MATTER FOR CLARIFICATION BETWEEN TWO GERMAN SIDES.

6. IN COURSE OF MEETING, POLAD TOOK OPPORTUNITY TO REINFORCE WITH BELETSKIY ALLIED STATEMENT TO CON GEN REPRESENTATIVE CONCERNING POLITICAL ACTIVITIES OF SOVIET CONSULATE GENERAL IN WEST BERLIN (REF C). REFERRING SPECIFICALLY TO GRISHCHENKO'S SPEECH AT DSF CLUB, POLAD DREW ATTENTION TO FACT THAT QA PROVIDED THAT CONSULATE GENERAL WOULD EXERCISE NO POLITICAL FUNCTIONS. POLAD NOTED THAT CONSULATE GENERAL ITSELF HAD APPEARED TO ACKNOWLEDGE THAT GRISHCHENKO'S ACTIVITIES WERE INAPPROPRIATE. BELETSKIY REPLIED THAT PUBLIC SPEAKING WAS PART OF NORMAL FUNCTIONS OF ANY CONSUL, REGARDLESS OF SUBJECT MATTER. POLAD SAID THAT FACTUAL LECTURE ON SOVIET ECONOMY MIGHT IN CERTAIN INSTANCES BE ACCEPTABLE, BUT THAT DISCUSSION OF CONTROVERSIAL POLITICAL ISSUES OBVIOUSLY CONSTITUTED POLITICAL ACTIVITY.

7. POLAD TOOK OPPORTUNITY TO INFORM SOVIETS OF IMPENDING PUBLICATION OF COLONEL BIRD'S BOOK ON HESS,
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NOTING THAT THERE WAS REALLY NOTHING THAT COULD BE

DONE TO PREVENT ITS APPEARANCE. BELETSKIY TOOK NEWS
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